

HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE GODA RAGHURAM

W.P.NO. 5838 OF 2007

DATED: 23.3.2007

Between:

M.V.S.Chowdary son of venkata Rao

... Petitioner

and

The Special Collector, LA Indirasagar Project, Rajahumundry and
another

...Respondents

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE GODA RAGHURAM

W.P.NO.5838 OF 2007

ORAL ORDER:

The petitioner's lands are sought to be acquired by the issuance of a notification dated.22-01-2007 under Section 4(1) of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (for short 'the Act'). Urgency clause has been invoked under Section 17 (4) of the Act and the enquiry under Section.5-A of the Act dispensed with mechanically and without due application of mind, is the complainant.

The impugned notification dated.22-01-2007 states that the acquisition is for the purpose of main canal on Pushkar Lift Irrigation at 50 K.M. This requirement is not of such an emergent nature as would justify invocation of the urgency clause and dispensing with the enquiry under Section 5-A of the Act. The enquiry under Section 5-A of the Act is a salutary statutory provision intended for affording a reasonable opportunity to the owner of lands to object to the acquisition on any relevant grounds as they wish to submit.

In the aforesaid circumstances, the decision in the impugned notification to invoke the urgency clause and dispensing with the enquiry under Section 5-A of the Act is declared irrational and unsustainable. The respondents are directed to issue notice to the

petitioner for submission of objections if any to the proposal to acquire the lands. On the petitioner's submitting his objections within the time stipulated in the notice, the same shall be considered and an appropriate decision taken duly communicating the decision to the petitioner simultaneously with the recommendations made after the enquiry under Section 5-A of the Act by the acquiring authority. The petitioner shall not be dispossessed pending communication of the decision to the petitioner consequent on the enquiry under Section 5-A of the Act.

The writ petition is disposed of as above at the stage of admission, after hearing the learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Government Pleader for Land Acquisition. There shall however be no order as to costs.

GODA RAGHURAM,J

23rd MARCH,2007
*TSNR